I'M NOT AFRAID ANYMORE!

The Master came to earth
To show the Way of Life;
His peace He brought from heav'n above
That all might walk in light.
One time my soul was grieved;
Grace was denied to me.
But then Christ's message of love I heard,
Now I have been set free.

My friend, do you now feel
God has denied you here
With burdens of this life you lead
Bound up in guilt and fear?
The Savior, he has said,
"Come unto Me and rest."
Accept this gift of love, my friend,
With Him you shall be blessed.

"That Christ He did not come
His Love with all to share,"
I listened to these words of men
Who really did not care.
But now I am convinced,
God has prepared the Way
For all who trust in Jesus' word.
Believing, they shall say;

I'M NOT AFRAID ANYMORE!
I'M NOT AFRAID ANYMORE!
GOD'S MESSAGE IS FOR ALL MANKIND;
SALVATION IS FOR EVERYONE;
WHAT'S BOUND ON EARTH IS BOUND IN HEAV'N.
PRAISE THE LORD!
I'M NOT AFRAID ANYMORE!

LOGOS

THE WORD
MADE FLESH

AN
OUTREACH
OF MCC

By the end of my one year term, I will have been your coordinator for only six months. I have been called to the mission church at Toronto. Rev. William Chapman of San Jose has been named interim coordinator.

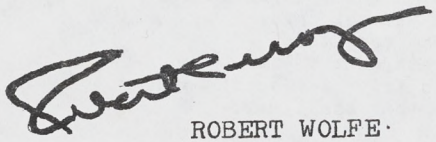
It has been exciting serving you in a dynamic district of a dynamic fellowship. We can look back at a district-wide Bible study day, separate from our regular conference; a chance to share ideas, share thoughts about our God, our religion; a chance to see the Christ emerging in each of us.

We can look back at a district-wide women's conference, again apart from a regular conference.--an event which is going to have impact on the Fellowship and an impact on Christianity. Your delegates and ministers have said "We are one.--'Therefore there is neither Jew nor Greek, bond nor free, male nor female, but you are all in Christs.'" We did not say it first, but you have said it well.

Now, move ahead. I shall miss being a part of it, but the momentum is there. Move ahead to make past accomplishment grow and to seek out new areas of our church life which need honest, dedicated study and action.

The Lord has called me to a work elsewhere; you are still called here. Praise the Lord, for in Him we are still working together.

In Christ's name, I greet you



ROBERT WOLFE
Sacramento

LOGOS

VOLUME TWO, NUMBER ONE

September-November 1973

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LOGOS is published quarterly each September, December, March, and June by the Northwest District , Metropolitan Community Church.The publication of names in no way is meant to convey sexuality of that person. When necessary, because of the intolerant attitude of the general society, photographs have been changed to protect the privacy of individuals.

DISTRICT COORDINATOR (interim)
Rev. William Chapman
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Rev. Tom Taylor

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Deadline Blues

You now hold the second issue of the LOGOS. That's right, the second issue. You haven't missed a copy.

Last year we set out to publish a quarterly,but it looks as though it has become an annual.

The first two deadlines, December and March zipped by because there wasn't enough cash in the till.

The June deadline went by because of trouble with copy and Uncle Sam's mail system.

Once the copy finally got to me, an was typed and pasted up ready for printing, September was upon us.

There was several things I wanted to include, but didn't have the copy or the space.

There was the fire in San Francisco, the resignation of Bob Wolfe as coordinator and pastor in Sacramento, the licensing of five more district ministers, the Ministerial Conference, and the mission in Portland, to name just a few.

Time and experience will help us to overcome some of our technical problems.

Whatevor happens, there will be a third issue, hopefully in time for Christmas.

Whatever happens, we ask for your understanding, prayers and sincerely hope you enjoy the product of our blood, sweat and tears.

Hosanna!

Women's Confab Successfull

SACRAMENTO-Women from the Northwest District MCC churches met here during the May 4-6 weekend for the first district women's conference. The meeting turned out to be so successful, it was agreed to make it an annual event.

Rev. Freda Smith of Sacramento, Deacon Ann Montegue and Exhorter Valerie Valrejean, both of Seattle, gave the three major addresses.

Singsperations, workshops, worship, Baptism, and fellowship filled-out the rest of the busy three-day program.

Ms. Montegue outlined the prevailing sexist attitude toward women in today's society. She defined sexism as the attitude and belief that women were inferior to men and male chauvinism as the behavior in men which stems from that belief.

The Seattle deacon underscored the prevailing attitude by using sexist quotes from men,famous for their defense of freedom and equality for everyone. Included were Jean Jacque Rousseau,Pope John XXIII, Napoleon Bonaparte, St. Paul, Pythagares, and Talcott Parsons.

The Hindu Code of Manu and the daily prayer of orthodox Jewish men were also quoted.

Ms. Montegue stressed that sexism pervades every facit of our lives, indicating women still made only 67 per cent of what men do.

Women are taught from birth to accept their subservient role, Ms. Montegue continued.

The church too is filled with the same attitudes and women are excluded from the ministry, she added.

"We must be able to bring women to a palce where they can worship with other Christians; where sisters will never feel excluded because they are women; and where they will see we are truly one in Christ Jesus," she concluded.

MCC has the task of bringing that spirit of oneness to all, she emphasized.

Socialization was the tool used to extend sexism, Ms. Valrejean explained, taking over the podium. "It is the way individuals are

molded into accepting the attitudes and beliefs of their society as their own."

The church, the family, and any other group are all active in this process, she said.

Ms. Valrejean attacked the use made of language to continue the sexist conventions. "It seems like nit-picking, but isn't," she said.

To change society's conventions, word concepts must be changed, she stressed.

She called on the conference to make Galations 3:30 a living reality: "Therefore there is neither Jew nor Greek, bond nor free, male nor female, but one in Christ Jesus."

"Since men and women are not living together in MCC, many of the barriers between them should not exist," Ms. Smith pointed out."While no Christian feminist can doubt but that women will be occupying the pulpits of every major church by the turn of the century, including the Catholic priesthood, our basic independence from men leaves us much freer to work toward that goal," she said.

Listing the restoration of women to equality with men as a "holy cause," Ms. Smith stressed women would have to lead the way in clearing up questionable Bible passages about women.

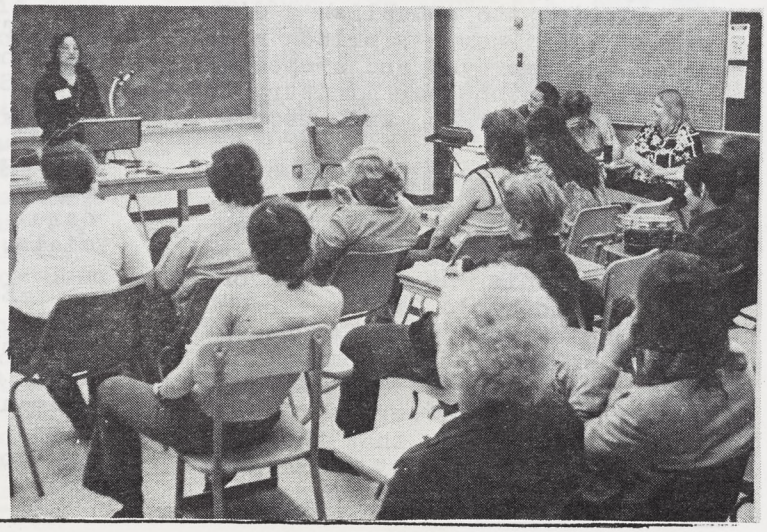
Denny's Restaurant will probably never fully recover from Sunday breakfast and the river Baptism was spiritually moving.

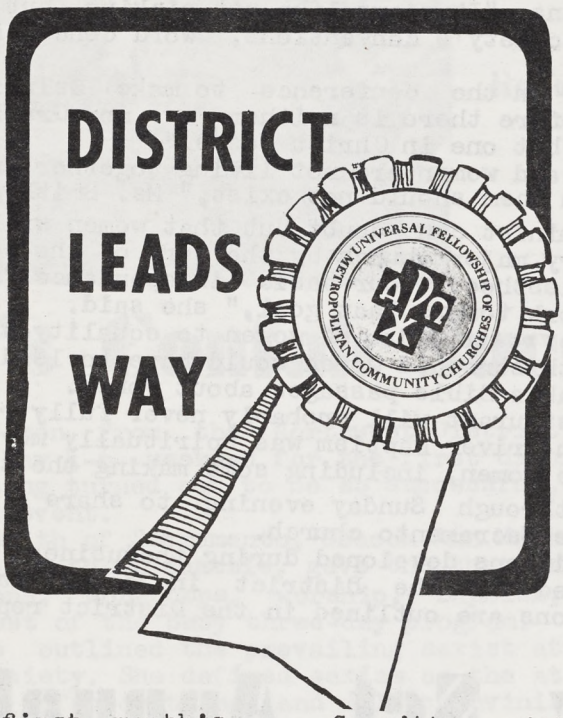
Many of the women, including some making the trip from Los Angeles, remained through Sunday evening to share a "high" Pentecostal service with the Sacramento church.

The propositions developed during the business session were unanimously endorsed by the District in Seattle later in the month. Those propositions are outlined in the District report on Page 6.

...Now Set Annually !!

Rebirth!!





SEATTLE-The Northwest District, a pioneer in women's rights and the use of retreats, continued to set the pace during its 2nd district conference here in May.

The District unanimously supported recommending a women's study seminar at Samaritan Bible Seminary and a promotional brochure to explain the opportunities in the ministry for women.

The delegates also supported a special brochure outlining the role women played in the Bible and the recommendation that the Board of Missions send a male and female team to new missions, underwriting the first month's salary.

Action to establish a district level women's prison ministry was approved and a special workshop on the bar ministry to both men and women was recommended.

District delegates also recommended promotion of women's days at the local level. In making the recommendation it was suggested this be done more often than Mother's Day.

One of the most far reaching recommendations coming before the District was the credentialling of lovers.

In recognizing that the Lord calls who He will, delegates noted there was nothing in the Fellowship procedures to preclude recognizing both partners.

It was agreed to make the Women's Conference, held earlier this year, an annual event.

The next conference is set in April.

The next District Conference will take the form of a full family winter retreat in Northern California or Southern Oregon.

This will be the District's second retreat. The first, sponsored by East Bay, was held last year.

The retreat is being planned by the District's Spiritual Life Committee with a theme of "A Deeper Walk."

The retreat will begin Friday and continue through Sunday.

San Francisco will handle music, while Sacramento will zero in on Christian-centered living. Seattle will cover liturgy and San Jose will take care of Christian-centered socials.

East Bay, will coordinate the arrangements.

District business will be kept to a minimum during the retreat to afford a greater time for fellowship, learning and worship.

AFTER CIVIL RIGHTS--

WHAT THEN???

By TOM TAYLOR

One by one sexist laws are being battered down.

A court in California prohibits surveilance of public restrooms; another court in Florida rules sex laws invalid; the state legislature in North Dakota removes the sex ban between consenting adults.

Across this vast nation and around the world Gay rights are being won. Slowly, but surely, unreasonable sex restrictions are being altered.

What happens when we win our civil rights? Does this mean we can tell our neighbor, our boss or our friends at the neighborhood church?

Not at all. Our neighbor, in spite of what the law says, will continue to hate "dirty faggots;" the boss will continue to discriminate against "queers;" and our friends at the neighborhood church will still look upon us as an "abomination."

Changes in law will help ease legal discrimination and harsh punishment, but it won't bring social acceptance overnight. That we'll have to earn.

We can demand and fight for legal rights, but we must earn acceptance.

This is why the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches is so important to both gays and straights. It is the one organization today actively working to reconcile the many facited human society to God through His Son, our brother, Jesus Christ.

Paul tells us in Romans 1:3 that all men and women have "fallen short of the glory of God," adding that "no one does good, no, not one."

John tells us God loved us so much, He sent His only Son to the cross to atone for that sinfulness.

No one can escape the judgement of God, Paul wrote, "for no human being will be justified in His sight by works of the law, since through the law comes the knowledge of sin."

The law has doomed us, but God through His love sent His son.

We are reconciled to God through His son, Paul stresses, not because of our good deeds but through God's free gift of grace.

It is our faith in God's

Continued page 8

RIGHTS

Continued from page 7

Son which sustains and justifies us, Paul repeats over and over.

I had been active in Christ's Church for 17 years when I stumbled up the stairs at California Hall to worship with the San Francisco MCC.

I don't know what I expected--a bunch of wierdoes "playing" at church, a place to find a trick, or a place to worship with others who understood, or maybe it was a little of all three.

I don't know what I expected, but I FOUND Christ!!!

I walked down those stairs a different person. Nothing has or could be the same ever again.

I saw something in MCC that was in very few other churches. I saw Catholics, middle-of-the-road Protestants and Pentecostals worshipping together, sharing the same Communion.

I saw two men share that Communion together. I saw men and women sharing equally in the duties of the church.

I also felt an overpowering Spirit of Love and a feeling of peace I have felt no where else.

We at MCC are not free of the little power plays, the bitch fights and the discordant sounds that come from highly individualistic people learning to live and work together. They happen continuously

All the discordant sounds in the world cannot block out the peace, joy and love we share unless we let them.

They cannot because Christ is at our side, sustaining and guiding us. Only we can shut Him out.

I discovered something else. Once you make Christ a part of your life you cannot keep it to yourself. You are compelled to seek others and share the joy.

I just didn't come out of my closet, I WAS PUSHED.

My closet wasn't large enough for both me and my Savior!

Gays can win all the legal battles and still lose the war until they recognize it is only the everyday interpersonal relationships they have with their neighbors that count.

Christ told us to first "love God," then to "love our neighbor as ourselves."

It is the only way to win both the battle and the war.

The Universal Fellowship, still an infant in its fourth year, will continue to grow as long as it keeps Christ at the center of its life.

Turn our backs, let the hatred creep back into our lives and MCC will be nothing--a hope that withered and died because we lacked the strength to believe His sacrifice was for EVERYONE.